

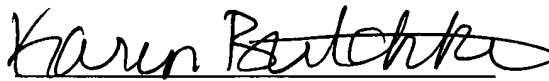
**REMARKS**

Claims 1-3, 5, 7, 12, 13, 17 and 18 have been amended.

Examination of the application is requested. No additional fees are seen to be required. If any additional fees are due, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482, in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds, P.C., for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment.

Respectfully Submitted,

**CARLSON, GASKEY & OLDS, P.C.**



Karin H. Butchko  
Registration No. 45,864  
400 West Maple Road, Suite 350  
Birmingham, Michigan 48009  
Telephone: (248) 988-8360  
Facsimile: (248) 988-8363

Dated: July 15, 2004

**CERTIFICATE OF MAIL**

I hereby certify that the enclosed preliminary amendment is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on July 15, 2004.

  
Amy M. Spaulding